

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 26178 161231Z

17

ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 DHA-02 VOE-00 SCA-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 SY-05 INSE-00 DEAE-00 ITFE-00 /020 W

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R 161008Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5639

UNCLAS BNGKOK 26178

FOR: ORM

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, TH, CB

SUBJECT: UNSPONSORED KHMER REFUGEE - KIM SON

REF: A. BANGKOK 26120 B. BANGKOK 26119

1. KHMER REFUGEE KIM SON FIRST BECAME ASSOCIATED WITH THE AMERICAN EFFORT IN INDOCHINA IN 1968, WHEN AT THE AGE OF 15 HE BEGAN FIGHTING WITH U.S. ARMY SPECIAL FORCES MIKE FORCE ELEMENTS UNDER THE CONTROL OF B-43 AND B-20 TEAMS. IN APRIL 1974 CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES/KHMER REPUBLIC HIRED HIM TO WORK IN ITS FIELD OPERATIONS AND MOBILE MEDICAL TEAM PROGRAMS. THE BASES FOR HIRING WERE (A) COMMENDATIONS FROM AMERICAN OFFICERS CITING THE INDIVIDUAL'S ABILITY TO WORK WELL UNDER STRESS CONDITIONS AND (B) HIS EXCELLENT COMMAND OF ENGLISH.

2. MR. KIM SON CONTINUED TO WORK WITH CATHOLIC RELIEF SVCS/ KHMER REPUBLIC UNTIL THE MORNING OF THE FALL OF PHNOM PENH (17 APR 1975), AT WHICH TIME HE AND MR. KIEN SU (SEE REFTL BANGKOK 26119) WERE FORCED SOUTHEAST INTO A WORK CAMP 25 KILOMETERS FROM THE VIETNAMESE BORDER. IN SEPTEMBER THE TWO MEN WERE MOVED TO ANOTHER WORK CAMP IN BATTAMBANG PROVINCE. THEY ESCAPED FROM THIS SECOND CAMP INTO THAILAND AT THEIR FIRST OPPORTUNITY IN NOVEMBER 1975.

3. IN VIEW OF KIM SON'S LONG ASSOCIATION WITH THE U.S., AND
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IN CONSIDERATION OF THE FACT THAT CRS/KHMER REPUBLIC PROJECTS

AND LOCAL EMPLOYEE SALARIES WERE HEAVILY SUPPORTED BY USAID FUNDING DURING THE CAMBODIAN WAR, THIS INDIVIDUAL IS RECOMMENDED FOR PAROLE INTO THE U.S. FOR URGENT HUMANITARIAN REASONS.

4. FATHER ROBERT CHARLEBOIS, FORMER SOUTHEAST ASIAN REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR CATHOLIC RELIEF SVCS, U.S.C.C., IS PERSONALLY INTERESTED IN THIS CASE. PLEASE CABLE HIM AT CATHWEL NEW YORK UPON RECEIPT OF THIS TELEGRAM.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BANGKO26178
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750436-1003
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751237/aaaabgkj.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ORM
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BANGKOK 26120, 75 BANGKOK 26119
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 JUN 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <14 JAN 2004 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNSPONSORED KHMER REFUGEE - KIM SON
TAGS: SREF, TH, CB, (KIM SON)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006